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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/998,386	11/15/2001	Joe Nathan Brown	AUS920010875US1	7328
46073, 7590 02/07/2007 IBM CORPORATION (VE) C/O VOLEL EMILE P. O. BOX 162485 AUSTIN, TX 78716			EXAMINER NGUYEN, MAIKHANH	
			ART UNIT 2176	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		02/07/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/998,386

Applicant(s)

BROWN ET AL.

Examiner

Maikhanh Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/01/2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-10,12,14-21,23,25-32,34,36-43 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-10,12,14-21,23,25-32,34,36-43 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the communications: Amendment filed 12/01/2006 to the original application filed 11/15/2001.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, 14-21, 23, 25-32, 34, 36-43, and 45 are currently pending in this application. Claims 2, 11, 13, 22, 24, 33, 35, and 44 have been canceled. Claim 45 has been added. Claims 1, 12, 23, and 45 are independent claims.

Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claim 1, 3-10, 12, 14-21, 23, 25-32, 34, 36-43, and 45 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by **DeStefano** (US 6,184,885 - filed 03/16/1998)

As to claim 1, 12, 23, and 34:

DeStefano teaches a method, computer program product, apparatus, and computer system (*e.g., a computer system*) of making links (*e.g., links, hyperlinks*) that are not easily identified in a displayed Web document (*e.g., typically selectively enabled in response to a predetermined criteria so that different links may be enabled or disabled under appropriate circumstances*) by a user (*e.g., a user*) to be clearly recognizable [see the discussion beginning at col.3, line 6] comprising the steps of:

- displaying the Web document (*e.g., HTML document*), the Web document have a plurality of embedded links (*e.g., hypertext links*) (col. 18, lines 12-28 & see also table 1 and the associated text);
- enabling the user to issue a command to have the plurality of links embedded in the Web document to be highlighted; receiving the command upon issuance (*e.g. Links are typically selectively enabled in response to a predetermined criteria so that different links may be enabled or disabled under appropriate circumstances. For example, a link may be selectively enabled in response to the sensitivity of one of the named concepts for the information elements to being crossed over by a pointer, or in response to a specified highlight enablement status of one of the referenced concepts. A link may also be enabled based upon the highlight enablement status of a link type associated with the link, or of a particular level of*

abstraction associated with the link; col. 3, lines 24-36 / issues highlight events to each lens in a lens sets that is capable of displaying information elements; col. 25, lines 1-5 & send a highlighting event to the primary lens and the list of secondary supplementary lenses ... to highlight the information element; col. 26, lines 28-37); and

- upon receiving the command, displaying the Web document with all the plurality of embedded links highlighted (*e.g., different types and/or combinations of specific links between named concepts may be presented to a user in different circumstances, thereby providing alternate presentations of information from a body of knowledge to the user ... select which and/or how links between named concepts are presented to different types of users; col. 3, lines 37-51; see also col. 11, lines 1-43 and col. 18, lines 12-28*).

As to claims 3, 14, 25, and 36:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded links flash to highlight the links (*e.g., The highlighting may also take any number of forms... blinking; col. 24, lines 19-28*).

As to claims 4, 15, 26, and 37:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded links are displayed in the different color to highlight the links (*e.g., The highlighting may also take any number of forms... a display*

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characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying ... colors; col. 24, lines 19-28).

As to claims 5, 16, 27, and 38:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded are displayed using a larger font to highlight the links (e.g., *The highlighting may also take any number of forms ... a display characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying ... font size; col. 24, lines 19-28).*

As to claim 6, 17, 28, and 39:

Bates teaches the plurality of embedded are displayed using a different font to highlight the links (e.g., *The highlighting may also take any number of forms ... a display characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying font type, font size; col. 24, lines 19-28).*

As to claims 7, 18, 29, and 40:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded links are emboldended to highlight the links (e.g., *The highlighting may also take any number of forms to visually distinguish highlighted information from unhighlighted information ... For example, a display characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying font type, font size, font attributes, colors, patterns, shading, and/or blinking; col. 24, lines 19-28)*

As to claims 8, 19, 30, and 41:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded links are displayed using an enlarged and the links target area enlarged to highlight the links (*e.g., The highlighting may also take any number of forms to visually distinguish highlighted information from unhighlighted information ...For example, a display characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying font type, font size, font attributes; col. 24, lines 19-28*).

As to claims 9, 20, 31, and 42:

DeStefano teaches the plurality of embedded links are duplicated and displayed in a different area to highlight the links (*e.g., a separate working copy 54 of the body knowledge is used by page builder 86 for each lens-filter pair during viewing so that appropriate links to different types of information 'especially executable methods' may be maintained; col. 13, lines 42-57*).

As to claims 10, 21, 32, and 43:

DeStefano teach when a duplicated link is selected, its corresponding link in the web document, displayed using a different font (*e.g., The highlighting may also take any number of forms to visually distinguish highlighted information from unhighlighted information ... by modifying font type, font size; col. 24, lines 19-28*).

As to claim 45:

The rejection of claim 1 above is incorporated herein in full. Additionally, DeStefano teaches:

- asserting an icon in the browser, the icon being able to toggle on to highlight the links and to toggle off to de-highlight the links (*e.g., Each crossover sensitive switch 92 may be toggled on or off to gate whether link pointer highlighting is enabled; col. 19, lines 1-26 & also see Fig. 7 and the associated text*); and
- enlarging the plurality of links and the target areas upon user command to highlighting the plurality of the links (*e.g., visually-distinct highlights may be applied in the alternative so that the link type, level, etc. of a particular linked concept ID may be distinguished on the computer display ... The highlighting may also take any number of forms to visually distinguish highlighted information from unhighlighted information. For example, a display characteristic for highlighted information may be modified, e.g., by modifying font type, font size; col. 24, lines 10-28*).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 12/01/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues in substance that *DeStefano does not teach enabling a user to issue a command to have a plurality of links embedded in the Web document to be highlighting, and upon receiving the command, displaying the Web document with all the plurality of embedded links highlighted* [Remarks, pages 13 and 14].

In response, the mapping provided in the rejection above shows how DeStefano meet the claim limitations. DeStefano teaches a user to issue a command to have a plurality of links embedded in the Web document to be highlighting (*e.g. Links are typically selectively enabled in response to a predetermined criteria so that different links may be enabled or disabled under appropriate circumstances. For example, a link may be selectively enabled in response to the sensitivity of one of the named concepts for the information elements to being crossed over by a pointer, or in response to a specified highlight enablement status of one of the referenced concepts. A link may also be enabled based upon the highlight enablement status of a link type associated with the link, or of a particular level of abstraction associated with the link; col. 3, lines 24-36 / issues highlight events to each lens in a len sets that is capable of displaying information elements; col. 25, lines 1-5 & send a highlighting event to the primary lens and the list of secondary supplementary lenses ... to highlight the information element; col. 26, lines 28-37*), and upon receiving the command, displaying the Web document with all the plurality of embedded links highlighted (*e.g., different types and/or combinations of specific links between named concepts may be presented to a user in different*

circumstances, thereby providing alternate presentations of information from a body of knowledge to the user... select which and/or how links between named concepts are presented to different types of users; col. 3, lines 37-51; see also col.11, lines 1-43 and col.18, lines 12-28).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Bates et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,987,482 Issued: Nov. 16, 1999
- Bates et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6,222,541 Issued: Apr. 24, 2001
- Bates et al. U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0196172 A1 Pub. Date: Oct. 16, 2003

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

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advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact information

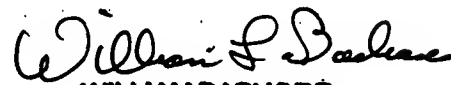
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached at (571) 272-4136.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner for patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Maikhanh Nguyen


WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

